

# THE BRITISH COLONIST.

VOL. I.

VICTORIA, V. I., SATURDAY, JAN. 8, 1859.

NO. 5.

## THE BRITISH COLONIST

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By A. DE COSMOS.

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TERMS—CASH.

## THE BRITISH COLONIST.

A. DE COSMOS, Editor.

SATURDAY, JAN. 8, 1859.

### PROPERTY QUALIFICATION OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Secretary Labouchere—in his instructions for the establishment of a Legislature in this colony—did not insist on a property qualification for members of either branch of the Legislature. This question was left to the discretion of the Executive who—imitating a modern and exploded precedent of Great Britain—fixed the property qualification of members of the Assembly at the possession of realty to the value of three hundred pounds stg. At the time of the organization of the House, one of the most intelligent gentlemen in the colony was not allowed to hold his seat owing to not being in possession of that amount of real estate,—whilst some others whose qualifications were doubtful were permitted. Whether this decision was founded on righter prejudice we shall not stop now to consider;—our object at present is to ask for a repeal of the property qualification.

In considering this question, we will benefit by a glance at the practice of the mother country. Originally in England the right to elect constituted the right to be elected. A property qualification for members of the House of Commons was introduced for the first time in the ninth year of Queen Anne, and subsequent enactments under successive monarchs defined it more clearly and made it more binding. The hereditary branch of Parliament wished to fix on the representatives of the people, a land qualification. They did so,—and, in the end, afforded in their own class the best evidences of its uselessness. No one questioned the right of a noble to sit in the House of Lords, nor of his eldest son to sit in the Commons, though he was bankrupt,—though he had not an acre of land to call his own, nor a sixpence that did not belong to some one else,—and all the qualification the son possessed was the prospective inheritance of a title. Men were also returned to the House of Commons on a property qualification loaned for the occasion. Thus this law was scandalously evaded and fell into merited disrespect.

The law, however, was considered as an unjust interference with the right of the people to select whomsoever they thought proper to represent them; and that it was a public wrong to fix a property qualification on the Commons,—whilst bankrupt noble lords sat in the Upper House, and their sons—the inheritors of nothing but a name—sat in the

Lower. The consequence was that men of all parties, in both Houses, united to restore a lost right to the people, by repealing a law which was virtually obsolete.

Now in asking a repeal of the property qualification of members of Assembly, we ask the introduction of no innovation, no experimental measure, no ultra-radical cure-all, nor mere hypothesis; but a measure which is in accordance with the long standing usage of Scotland,—of the British American Provinces,—and of England,—and one which is absolutely necessary to the well-being of the colony. The moment—by adding a property qualification—a particular class is pointed out as the only persons qualified to become representatives,—at that moment an act of injustice is done to the people, and their natural rights invaded. The free and fair expression of the feelings of the people are curtailed; the popular voice in the government is stifled; and they are deprived of electing those to represent them in whom they may have the greatest confidence, or it may be from electing those most competent, which is equally important. By natural right the people have a just and unquestioned right to elect whomsoever they please to represent them. On this ground none will dispute; but if we move this question on the ground of the civil rights of the people, we are compelled to conclude that a property qualification is useless, and answers no good purpose of the colony. Civil liberty is natural liberty, restrained only so far as is necessary for the security of life and property. Now no sane man will attempt—in the face of the experience and practice of the British people, at home and in the colonies—to prove that life or property would be endangered or rendered insecure by a repeal of the property qualification.

If he did, he would be asked: Is life and property less secure in Scotland where no qualification has been required, than in Vancouver's Island? Are they less secure in the British American Provinces or in England, than here? If a correct answer should be that life and property are more secure here owing to the qualification, then let it be retained.—But the true answer to these questions would be that no people have greater security for life and property than the people of Great Britain and the British American Provinces, where this restraint is repudiated. From this we safely conclude, and justly urge, that it is injustice to restrict in this respect the natural rights of the people; that the law here is not essential to order and security; that it conflicts with an open and free expression of popular feeling; and that the sooner it is repealed, the sooner will cease a useless clog to liber-

ty. It may be urged by the opponents of repeal, that it is a wholesome restraint tending to create a stronger, a more highly-toned, and a more stable government, by preventing men of straw from becoming representatives. This we emphatically deny. For there are no more substantial representatives than the Scotch members of the House of Commons; they are a standing proof of our position. The experience of the British people have not only proved the qualification useless in creating a stronger government, but, what is of more importance to

know, that it is productive of ultraism, agitation, and evasion of the law. The tendency is to make agitators and ultraists of a large and influential portion of our citizens,—men noted for their intelligence and patriotism. These men justly consider that having the confidence of the people, their birth, education, profession, and public spirit, should not be ignored in order to give place to some monied ignoramus whose only recommendations are his pounds and acres. They view the property qualification as class legislation. To submit to it is derogatory to their own self-respect; and whilst smarting under the injustice of the law, they resolve unrelenting war against any and every government. Repeal the qualification, and the charge of class legislation on this score will cease, and the envy of classes will die. Then the poor man's son, educated by a scanty sun-drawn from the toil and sweat of an honest father, would have no just reason to leave his country in search of fame in more liberal climes; for in this respect he would have nothing to gain, but much to lose. Repeal would have its share in attracting the talented and intelligent and industrious from other portions of the British empire to our shores, and a wise political economist will ever foster the most liberal usages consistent with public order that population may be increased and remain to add wealth and importance to the colony.

Correspondence of the British Colonist.

FORT LANGLEY, Jan. 1, 1858.

MR. EDITOR: The steamer Enterprise has just arrived from Mariaville, having left this place on the 28th ult. The water is low and falling rapidly, and with great difficulty reached her place of destination, not however without having knocked a hole in her bottom about a mile from Mariaville. The leak was easily stopped and cargo landed with little or no damage. The snow has rapidly disappeared, except on the summit of the hills. The river is entirely free from ice. The thermometer during the trip was never lower than 56 Fahrenheit.

At Mariaville in conversation with miners, I heard encouraging accounts of the upper diggings. I was informed that parties were arriving at Fort Yale, supplying themselves with provisions, and leaving for Bridge and Thompson rivers. The lowest wages were said to be five dollars per day. Miners were also congratulating themselves that there was at last a paper in Victoria which, to use the expression made by one, was not crabbed clawed, (i. e. all on one side,) and that popular opinion would be honestly expressed.

Parties doing business here, who have paid the duty on goods at Victoria, are obliged to get a certificate for goods sold to purchasers going up Fraser's river. This would seem to be of little moment, but when it is considered we have no regular Custom House, and that leaving in small boats, are desirous of taking the advantage of the tide, it becomes a nuisance. For instance, a boat trader purchases a cargo of goods about town from a dozen individuals. He will be obliged to hunt up an officer, get a dozen certificates, and will perhaps, if late in the

evening, be delayed four or five hours, which would, with the tide, take him up double the distance with it against him. But as we are not wanted here, and can leave it if we don't like it, the inconvenience amounts to nothing in the eye of the law.

Many wishes Mr. Editor for the success of your journal, and that it may always be honestly independent is the earnest desire of your friend.

LANGLEY.

BRITISH SHIPPING TRADE.—A correspondent of the London Shipping Gazette calls attention to the present depressed condition of British shipping. He says: More than one-third of the tonnage in the ports of London and Liverpool are lying unemployed, and in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Singapore, and China, there are upwards of 200,000 tons of British shipping lying idle. The value of ships has depreciated within the last two years 50 per cent. Shipbuilding at the outports is almost suspended, and thousands of carpenters and other artisans are unemployed and starving; vast numbers of master mariners, officers and seamen are also idle, and in the greatest distress. The reason for this he argues is, that while the foreigner enjoys the full benefit of their carrying trade, Great Britain is virtually shut out from the carrying trade of other countries, especially from the coasting trade of the United States, which is of immense importance.

MR. BRIGGS stated at Birmingham the other day that there is no place in the world where the responsibilities of public men sit so easily upon them as in England, and he mentioned the case of Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, who received fifty or sixty letters from General Williams, of Kars, when he was shut up in that fortress, imploring aid, during the Russian war, without ever deeming it necessary to notice them. Mr. Bright remarked that if this had occurred in Russia the offender would have been sent to Siberia, a fate he had merited; but with us, he came home, was received with acclamations, as if nothing had happened, and what is still more strange, the Commander of Kars, who had been so treated, and the force under whose command had suffered the greatest privations, took no notice of the indignity, and the whole affair is now condoned or forgotten, just as if it had never occurred.

But this was not the only instance, for the war with Russia made sad havoc with several established reputations; yet the aristocratic offenders returned home, received honours and decorations, and all their short comings were buried in oblivion. These facts cannot be denied, and they lend great force to Mr. Bright's charge as to the non-responsibility of our public men.

# THE BRITISH COLONIST.

A. DE COSTER, Editor.

SATURDAY, JAN 8, 1859.

SOME persons have supposed that we have a personal antipathy to Gov. Douglas. Now we wish it distinctly understood that we are not opposed to him, as a private gentleman; we differ with him politically only. In the discharge of our public duty we may use language that may be considered strong, but we honestly believe that the causes warrant us in doing so. Consequently we wish our readers not to charge us with what we are not guilty of. We believe that the acknowledged deficiencies of Gov. Douglas render him unsuited for the office of Chief Magistrate of these colonies, and desire to see him occupy a position where all parties may be satisfied with him. In this we are supported by the expressions of his real friends, who are sorry that he retains a position which long isolation from society renders him unable to fill with benefit to the country. We would willingly excuse many trifling errors, but prompted only by a pure and honest desire to benefit the country, we are compelled to set his acts of usurpation, of duplicity, of wrong, and of incapacity, in their true light before the people. Were we to forget the duty we owe to the country—prove traitor to her in the hour of her greatest need,—and sell our humble influence for the gold that perisheth, we would deservedly merit the scorn and contempt of every true patriot. We have chosen, however, the higher and nobler duty of exposing the evils, denouncing the wrongs, and fostering the good, of our country, rather than become a base and crawling wretch, lost to all self-respect, the servile and hired tool of mediocrities and scoundrels. With the people we care not who is Governor, or who is Judge, or who is Magistrate, so long as the officers of these colonies are competent to discharge their duties, and the business of the country is properly done. But when we find a Colonial Secretary selecting a Governor for impotent colonies from among men who have been at such times among Indians, swapping badges with jackets for furs at two thousand per cent profit, when we find that the man so selected has sacrificed the best interests of the country to benefit monopoly, then we bid do our duty in arraignment the authors of misadministration before the bar of public opinion.

No people ever had greater reason to be indignant at the way in which the interests of their country have been managed than ourselves. The Council of the colony has been degraded to a farce, and its members made a laughing stock. The people have been insulted by appointing the calumniator of our citizens to a place of honor. The principles of legislation have been overturned. Officers noted for incapacity have been foisted into office contrary to the wishes of the people; the settlement of both colonies has been opposed; and vast sums of money squandered, and debt entailed on the colony;—and all because a Colonial

Secretary has been adwinked by a colossal monopoly. What will in the end result for our relief, we do not know. One thing, however, we are satisfied, that the agitation will commence for the removal of our Governors, if change is not speedily made in the colonies.

THE following letter is from a gentleman engaged in mining on the upper Fraser. From our long acquaintance with him, we can place the utmost confidence in his statements:

## LYTTON CITY.

Forks of Thompson, Dec. 18, '58.  
Dear Sir,—according to promise I send you a few items relative to the mines in this vicinity.

Judging from my own experience and the accounts of others, also from the amount of improvements in the way of sluices, etc., I have come to the conclusion that the mineral resources of this section of country are not of very doubtful dimensions. I have lately been up Fraser as far as Rose's Bar. This is a small camp about 56 miles above the works. At this place I prospected and found some excellent prospects. I saw the products of many of the rockers, and found that the daily yield to each rocker was from ten dollars to two ounces; in some instances a much larger yield. On my return down I visited at Foster's Bar, a very considerable mining camp, situated 8 miles below Rose's. There were seven 50 miners at this place, two or three trading posts, and quite a number of houses and log cabins. The mines here are about the same as at Rose's. On the opposite side of the river, Bodfish and Co. have dug a ditch to conduct the water to an extensive bar of the river. After the completion of the ditch they tried the experiment of sluicing; could not save the gold. I learned that another party have since taken it in hand, and have met with great success. Some three miles below Foster's is a bluff of rocks directly on the bank of the river; between this bluff and the base of the mountain, at an elevation of some 80 to 100 feet, is a flat about half a mile in length by a breadth of two feet, at this point a gravel is from two inches to fully two deep. I consider the most flattering prospects I have ever seen in the country. I panned it as high as thirty seven and a half yards to the pan of dirt. Although I do not consider this an average of its richness, the result of 19 buckets of dirt, washed at the extremity of this flat, was five dollars, which I consider much below the average of the entire flat. Jas. Briggs and Co., have brought in a ditch to this place from a neighboring ravine, and are reaping a good harvest to remunerate them for their enterprise. Some 8 miles below this place is Cameron's Bar, probably the richest bar on the upper Fraser. As high as sixty dollars to the rocker has been made since the fall of the river. At this place everything was indicative of enterprise; ditches were excavated, sluices made, and everything showed the existence of the "precious metal," and the indomitable will of the hardy miners.

Twelve miles below Cameron's is Mormon Bar, a very flourishing place on the eastern bank of Fraser. At this place miners are doing extremely well; considerable work was done at this point last spring, and a gentleman (I have forgotten his name) told me that he made as high as fifty dollars per day. One mile below, and on the opposite side, is "Last Chance" Co. The extent of the operations of this company proves more than words the richness of the mines. They located this bar on the 45th Sept., and immediately commenced a ditch,

which cost them about six weeks labour. There are eight in the Co., and this was done when flour was from fifty cents to one dollar per lb. Their ditch is some two and a half miles in length, and capable of holding 400 inches of water. They run two gangs of sluices, which they sawed themselves. The yield of this bar has never been less than nine dollars, and it has been (for the last six days they worked) as high as twenty-four dollars to the land per day. I know this and can defy contradiction. White and Co., with rockers, on the adjoining claim, with equally rich dirt, were not able to make more than five dollars per day to the man. This shuns the superiority of the sluice over the rocker. The "Last Chance" Co. has just completed the survey of another branch ditch which, when completed, will be some three and a half miles in length. This is to supply the miners below. There are a great number of men on Van Winkle Bar, and those who have been washing with sluices inform me that they can average nine to ten dollars per day. There is one thing of which I am certain, that is, that any man can make with a rocker, two to six dollars per day, and with a sluice four times that amount, in almost any place he likes to prospect. I hear very flattering accounts from all portions of the mines both above and below, more particularly so from Thompson and Bridge rivers. I have seen some most excellent specimens from the latter place, one piece weighing twelve dollars fifty cents. I have seen a number of men returning from Bridge river, driven out for want of provisions. With one exception all those whom I saw intended returning in February. The climate of this upper country is very pleasant, always a bright sky. The total amount of rain during my sojourn here since August, would not amount to 12 hours. Snow fell to a depth of two inches on the first of this month, but disappeared in two days. For four days we had very cold weather, the thermometer one night indicated one deg. below zero. This prevented the miners from working for five or six days. At the time of writing, they are all at work, with a bright sky and mild weather, 55 deg. midday. Speaking of mid-day reminds me of beans, etc., therefore I will close with a renewal of my promise to write to you occasionally. W.

THE steamer Cortez arrived on Thursday morning from San Francisco, with a few passengers, and a small amount of freight, bringing English dates to Nov. 20, New York to Dec. 6, and California to Jan. 1, from which we extract the following:

Fears were entertained for the safety of steamer Indian Empire, which left Halifax Oct. 28.

The gales on the coast of England had not caused any disasters among vessels, as far as heard from.

The British Parliament had been further prorogued to the 14th January.

Fears are entertained for the safety of the ship Agincourt, long overdue from Australia, with a large amount of treasure.

The London Times published a rather hopeful article on the Atlantic Cable, and urges upon the Directors the propriety of accepting the offer of Professor Hughes to work it with his printing telegraph instrument.

Frederick Bruce, brother of Lord Elgin, had been appointed Minister to Peru.

France was sending reinforcements to Cochin China.

Persigny had been appointed Commissioner to consider the question of negro slavery.

The new Great Eastern Ship Company

was duly organized. One hundred and forty thousand pounds stg. more required to finish her.

The French frigate Neophyte had been lost near Cadiz.

Lords Palmerston and Clarendon were paying a visit to Napoleon at Campania.

A letter from Rome states that all the great Catholic powers had addressed remonstrances to the Pope, and requested the release of the Jewish boy Mortra. The Pope replied that the boy's return to his parents was impossible.

The Indian mails reached England under escort, to Calcutta.

An explosion had occurred at Kanashie Arsenal, blowing up a part of the building, and destroying 1,000,000 lbs. of ammunition.

Robert Owen, the renowned communist, died Oct. 48, at Newton, aged 88 years.

Mr. Morphy remains this winter in Europe. Herr Anderson is expected to meet him at Paris, so that the much expected chess match will come off.

QUARTER SESSIONS INC. January 8th. Messrs. Langford and Pease present.

Mr. Langford, Chairman.

There were four cases prepared : Wright vs. Bowen.—Embezzlement. Not presented, being out of the jurisdiction of the Court.

Edwards vs. Hohl.—In this case the defendant was charged with assaulting Sergt. Edwards of the Police Force, in the execution of his duty, but as it was shown in evidence that the Sergt. had exceeded his duty the prisoner was acquitted.

Regina vs. Willis Bond.—Selling unwholesome food. Ignored.

Michael Myers was arraigned for stealing a mat of sugar. Found guilty, and sentenced to three months imprisonment with hard labour.

VOLUNTEERS FOR VANCOUVER.—A call had been made on the garrison at Canton for seven officers and one hundred and fifty men, to volunteer to go to Vancouver's Island, and the whole garrison volunteered.

Rev. Mr. Hill of Great Yarmouth, had been appointed to the Bishopric of British Columbia.

WE take pleasure in acknowledging our indebtedness to Hibben and Co. and W. F. Herre, for English and American papers; to Wells, Fargo and Co. for files of California papers; and to the accommodating purser of the Santa Cruz, Mr. Wyman, for Puget Sound papers.

THREE men had arrived at Leavenworth, Kansas, with 500 dollars, the result of the summer's prospecting in Pike's Peak gold mines. They report favorably. Two lines of stages are advertised for the gold region.

THE President's Message had arrived at San Francisco from St. Louis in nineteen days.

THE Pacific Mail Steamship Company are making a vigorous effort to have the mail contract renewed.

MOST of the Nicaragua Fillibusters were still at Mobile, but growing restive owing to their detention.

THROUGH the kindness of Mr. Tenant, we have been favored with the following account of the recent outrages at Fort Yale:

On the 24th Dec. Bernard Price, a miner, from a short distance above Fort Yale, was shot by Wm. Foster, in front of his saloon. A great excitement arose, and Capt. Whannell, Magistrate, issued a warrant for Foster, and swore in 50 or 40 Constables. Foster escaped and has not since been arrested. The citizens and miners held a meeting and resolved to aid Capt. Whannell in any measure he might adopt to preserve the peace. The next day an unprovoked attack was made on a coloured person by two gamblers, who, after snapping their pistols at him, beat him unmercifully. This outrage increased the excitement, and a meeting of the citizens was held the same evening in the Court House. Capt. Whannell presided. Resolutions were passed to answer the call of the Magistrate, to assist him in making arrests, and especially the gamblers and others equally bad then infesting the town.

Meanwhile all the gamblers had left the town. Strict search was made for Foster, the murderer, and for the two gamblers who beat the coloured man. The trails both above and below the town were well guarded. The next morning Capt. Whannell shut up all the gambling houses, and revoked all the licenses granted by Mr. Hicks. (Let it be perpetual.—Ed.) There was considerable excitement for the next few days, and talk of lynch law among the miners.

The constable, when the Hill's Bar gang arrived, indulged in some insolence to Capt. Whannell in open court, when he very properly sent him to jail. Within an hour, a party of 45—hard cases expatriated by the S. F. Vigilance Committee—came into the court room and arrested Capt. Whannell in the name of the Queen; at the same time a detachment of the same party broke open the jail and liberated Dickson, the constable, and then fled. These deeds were done so quietly that few of the inhabitants knew of it till after the Magistrate had been forced away to Hill's Bar by some 45 desperadoes. On arriving at Hill's Bar he was brought before a court where presided Justice Perrier, the notorious Ned McGowan, and Bagley. The court heard the testimony of the constable, and fined Capt. Whannell fifty dollars, which he deemed it advisable to pay. He was then permitted to return.

We hope the government will use strong measures to punish the perpetrators of these outrages,—make a lasting example of them,—and close up all the gambling holes in British Columbia.—Ed.

**COPPER AND AMBER.**—Mr. Robert Williams, a most reliable gentleman, from the Forks of Fraser and Thompson, has given us a specimen of copper found in that country, which will assay 95 per cent. He also showed us a beautiful specimen of amber found there.

STEAMER Cortez carried down about 150 passengers, and 8,500 dollars for Wells, Fargo and Co., and about double that amount in private hands.

WE have received several communications relative to A. P. Com. of P. which our limited space compels us to decline for more important matter. The verbal comments of the public are perhaps sufficient for any real or supposed injury. He says the great body of the immigrants were orderly, as his docket shows, we claim no more. Sheriff Muir has been jailer many years; consequently the Com. of P. is incorrect about a jailer being unknown before last spring. At another time we may refer to his letter more particularly.

**COL. R. C. MOODY** was sworn in Agent, Governor and Commissioner of Crown Lands and Public Works for British Columbia. He is also commander-in-chief of H. M. land forces in British Columbia and Vancouver's Island. He left Langley by steamer Beaver on Thursday, on a temporary visit; but will shortly make it his residence.

**THE SACRAMENTO (Cal.) UNION** says:—"The British Colonist, a new paper, appeared at Victoria Dec. 4. It is said to be the organ of the Colonial Government." The British Colonist is the organ of the people, and devoted to the prosperity of the country.

PREDICTIONS of disaster to the Paraguayan expedition are made, owing to some of the vessels being so large that they will not be able to get within a thousand miles of Dictator Lopez.

The Temporal Emperor had committed suicide, owing to the Spiritual Emperor having called him to account for concluding a treaty with Lord Elwin without consulting him.

Mr. Forsyth, U. S. Minister to Mexico, had arrived at Washington; Paulding Tatnall had also arrived with the new Japan treaty.

An eccentric dinner had been given by Prince Jerome Napoleon, at his Panamanian house in the Champs Elysees, when shark's fins, stewed bamboo, frieze spiders, and other exorbitant entrees figured on the Imperial board.

THE Santa Gruz arrived on Thursday from Langley, with 16 passengers. The only news of importance was the outrages at Fort Yale.

#### NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

#### STORE FOR SALE.

SELIM FRANKLIN AND CO.

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS,

YATES STREET,

Will Sell

ON MONDAY THE 10th INST.

AT 12 O'CLOCK, M.

That substantial Building on Yates street, next door to the Express office of Wells, Fargo and G.

The house is 22x60 feet, and is constructed of the best materials, the planks being 1 1/4 inches thick, tongued and grooved.

ALSO,

COUNTERS, SHELVES, ETC.

The Lease of the ground can be had on moderate terms.

VICTORIA WHOLESALE PRICE CURRENT		PORTER, ALE, WINES, WHISKEY, ETC.
Corrected Weekly.—Jan. 8.		J. D. CARROL,
Apples, dried, per lb.	13 a 15	VATES STREET, VICTORIA.
Brandy, " "	2 1/2 a 23 1/4	KEEPS constantly on hand every variety of the choicest Ale, Porter, Wine, Whisky, Brandy, etc., with a full supply of
Bacon, Extra, bear, per lb.	49 d. a 45	GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.
Beans, " "	19 a 29	HOT & HISKY PUNCHES, of the best quality, always ready to order, and a comfortable room to sit down in and enjoy it.
Butter, " "	3 a 3 1/2	
Blankets, per pair,	42 a 46	
Beef, mutton, per lb.	8 a 10	
Bread, pilot, " "	10 a 12	
Crockery, 50 per cent below cost.		
Coffee, Rio, per lb.	16 a 17	
Coffee, Java, " "	19 a	
Cheese, " "	35 a 45	
Candies, " "	35 a 37 1/2	
Crackers, soda, " "	1 a 14	
Flour, best brands, " "	1 1/2 a 13 50	
Glumy Bags, " "	21 a 26	
Hives, " "	2 1/2 a 3	
Linen, " "	34 a 55	
Lz. 1, in 10 lbs. cans, " "	19 a 19	
Lumber, according to quality, " "	2 a 22	
Meats, etc., per lb.	4 a 5	
Meat, " "	5	
Oats, " "	2 a 2 1/2	
Onions, " "	2 a 3	
Pork, extra clear, 1-2 bbls., " "	20 a 22 1/2	
Pork, mess, in " "	17	
Peas, split, " "	6 a 7	
Potatoes, " "	2 a	
Quicksilver, " "	65 a 70	
Rice, Carolina, " "	8 a	
Rice, China No. 1, fair, " "	6 a 6 1/2	
Sugar, crushed, " "	17 a	
" China No. 1, fair, " "	11 a 11 1/2	
New Orleans, fair, " "	13 a 13 1/2	
" San Francisco refined, " "	13 1/2 a	
Syrups, East Boston and S. F. refinery, " "	90 a 1	
Sheetings and Drillings, " "	12 a 12 1/2	
Shirts, drawers and gey under, per dozen, " "	10 50 a 11 50	
Over shirts, per dozen, " "	18 a 19	
Teas, green, accord. to quality, " "	30 a 55	
Teas, black, accord. to quality, " "	50 a 40	
Yeast Powders, per dozen, " "	2 a 3	

#### REMOVAL.

HUNTOON AND CO. have removed to Wharf street opposite Yates street. Jim

#### OPENING OF THE SCHOOL

By the Sisters of St. Ann, also called Sisters of Charity, in Victoria, v. l., Dec. 3, 1858.

**THE SPIRIT OF DEVOTEDNESS WITH WHICH** the Sisters have undertaken a long and expensive enterprise, and the object we find in view, the establishment of the present Institution in this to n., are their best recommendation to the community. To impart to young ladies the benefit of a good moral and domestic education, accompanied with the knowledge of the various branches of elementary training, together with those which constitute the higher departments of a finished education, such is the object to which the Sisters are devoted by profession, and which they will leave nothing undone to carry through, it is to be, to the satisfaction of all parents or guardians who may feel disposed to trust their children to their care and guardianship.

Reading, Writing, Arithmetic, practical and rational, Book Keeping, Geography, Grammar, Rhetoric, History, Natural History, English, French, plain and ornamental Needle and Net work, in all their different shapes, will form the course of studies in this institution.

The disciplinary government will be mild, yet sufficiently energetic to preserve that good order so essential to the well-being of the Institution.

Parents may rest assured that every necessary attention will be paid to the comfort of Pupils, whilst the utmost care will be taken to nourish in their minds those principles of virtue and morality which alone can make education profitable.

The Sisters are also prepared to attend to the sick at any time their services may be required.

Difference of Religion is no obstacle to admission into the Institution, but whilst pupils are left without any interference, to follow their own profession, good order requires that they should conform to the general regulations of the establishment.

#### TERMS :

The Scholastic Year is divided in three sessions.	
Board and Tuition,	660 00 per session.
Day Boarders,	20 25 per session.
Day Scholars,	11 25 per session.
Washing and Mending at the Institution,	24 00 per annum.
Vacation, if spent at the same,	25 00
Music,	3 00 per month.
Drawing,	1 50 per month.

All to be paid in advance.

The Sisters are not prepared, for the present, to attend to these two last branches, but they hope that ere long they will have teachers fully qualified to teach the same.

The Pupils to find their own books, etc., etc.

Destitute orphans will be received gratis as Day scholars; and parents actually not able to pay are requested to call at the Establishment.

The Scholastic Year opens on the 8th of September and closes on or about the 25th of July.

W. B. DEMERS.

YATES STREET, VICTORIA.

KEEPS constantly on hand every variety of the choicest Ale, Porter, Wine, Whisky, Brandy, etc., with a full supply of

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

HOT & HISKY PUNCHES, of the best quality, always ready to order, and a comfortable room to sit down in and enjoy it.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

A Beautiful Assortment of GENUINE MEERSCHAUM PIPES,

For sale by ADOLPH SUTRO AND CO., 225-5 Cor. Yates and Wharf streets, CARROTS! PEAS!! 3,000 LBS. Carrots. 200 bushels Peas,

For sale by THOMAS COOPER, 225-51 Cor. Broad and Yates sts. CURTIS AND CO.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,

YATES STREET, VICTORIA, Importers of

Fine quality Drugs, Chemicals, Toiletries, Perfumery, Sweedish Leeches, etc.

Agents for all the popular Patent Medicines.

Also, dealers in Camphene, Alcohol, and Burning Fluid.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS ! HIBBEN & CO.

Have received by Pacific a quantity of Books suitable for Christmas and New Year's gifts.

W. F. HERRE, Book and News Depot, YATES, NEAR WHARF STREET,

KEEPS the largest assortment in town of English and American and German and Spanish Newspapers.

VICTORIA READING ROOM,

Open from 9 o'clock, a.m., to 11 o'clock, p.m. Subscription—First Month 5 dollars, and for each following one 3 dollars. By the week, beginning with Sunday, 1 dollar.

THOMAS MOLONY, FORWARDING AND COMMISSION MERCHANT FORT LANGLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

JUST PUBLISHED !

THE FRASER MINES VINDICATED ; OR, THE HISTORY OF FOUR MONTHS.

By ALFRED WADDINGTON.

For sale by W. E. Herre, Yates street, and at the Book stores.

YATES STREET CHOP HOUSE

AND

BAKERY .

YATES STREET, OPPOSITE APOTHECARIES HALL.

THE proprietors of this establishment would respectfully inform the public that they are prepared to set a table for their customers unsurpassed by any in the town. Every delicacy or luxury cooked in the best style, which the market affords, will be served on a moment's notice. The table will always be supplied with game of all kinds. By civil waiters and prompt attention they hope to merit a share of public patronage.

dec. 18 RINGGOLD AND CO.

HOLIDAY CAKES.

JELLYS, ETC., OF ALL KINDS.

Will be found at the Yates street Bakery during the Holidays.

## PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

MR. EDITOR: In my last I stated that the Indian reserve ought to be purchased from the Indians by the government. I will now endeavour to show its value and importance to the colony, after the Indians are removed and a bonfire made of their filth and rubbish. Removed they ought to be: their appearance on the streets in the midst of civilized society, where a respectable female cannot pass along or even look from her window without seeing some of the tribe prowling about in a state of nudity. Such is little short of an insult offered to female modesty. How can parents expect to bring up their young daughters in innocence and purity, which is the desire of their hearts, with such sights continually before their eyes. This is an evil that none can calculate the extent of. With such disgusting sights before the young, who can tell that the foundation is not gradually being laid of wickedness too fearful to mention. Surely this comes within the pale of the church. The church ought to use its influence on behalf of virtue. The subject is an evil, and whoever removes it, or assists in removing it, will only be doing his duty to his God and his fellow-creatures. From what I know of Gov. Douglas, I will say, that I believe him incapable of offering insult to female modesty; and I am sure that he will do all in his power to preserve the young from evil ways. Should the case be laid before His Excellency I feel confident that he will cause the Indians to be removed, then the evil complained of will vanish in the smoke of the bonfire. When all has been cleared away, let the piece of ground be laid off in town lots to the best advantage, for whatever purposes the government may think best. Let the streets be about 150 feet wide, and as many as can be afforded. The streets must be laid off at right angles, and lots will consequently be square with the streets, so that a man can have the four walls of his house built on the square without losing one-tenth of his ground, to wit: Wilcox's brick building, a stupid affair, entirely caused by bad surveying. Say that all this is done as it ought to be, then the propriety of running a stone pier from the south-east corner, extending over that reef of rocks, ought to be considered. The rocks extend into the harbour about 150 feet; they can be only partly seen at low tide, consequently they are very dangerous. Several vessels have grounded on them. The steamer Sea Bird lay on them. It was next to a miracle that she was not ruined; but a worse fate was in reserve for her. To remove these rocks I think would be a useless expenditure, as they can be taken advantage of by making them the foundation of the pier. There is an abundance of stone and lime within a few yards of the spot, and the proceeds of the sale of a few lots would pay for everything. When finished the inside of it would make an excellent wharf—a government wharf, that would bring a considerable revenue into the colonial treasury. Should all this be decided on, then let the lots be put up for sale and sold to the highest bidders, with the understanding that the government will only charge so much per ton wharfage. Then merchants and others will invest in lots: a row of brick buildings for warehouses will soon appear, and goods will be stored in them as places of safety from fire. I will now say a few words about the north end of the bridge round the north point to and above the bridge, at the back of the village, is one of the most desirable spots for carrying on the business of building

and repairing ships, in the world. Ship building and repairing in every country is a most important feature of trade. Look to the Clyde, where 100 ships can be counted on the stocks at a time, and men employed by thousands, and well paid. I hope the government will bear this in mind. Now let us look at the sloping heights in the back ground—how admirably adapted for foundries, smithies, and all other works of that description. I trust that the government will take that piece of ground for the colony without delay. I predict that the lots will bring on the average 700 dollars, the proceeds of sales will put the government in possession of a sum that will enable them to improve the harbour, build more bridges, and add convenience to the town, and a place where merchants can store their goods in something like safety. I observe with pleasure houses are being built on the south side, and a wharf is about to be run out. Go ahead south side. I hope to see a bridge span James' Bay very soon; and if you and the Indian village side should go ahead as I anticipate, the day may not be far distant when the people may demand for their convenience a bridge across Crown point. Don't be afraid, it will be no impediment to ships. All that you have got to do is to create commerce on your lots, build wharves, and nothing will prevent ships from getting to them but the want of water to float them. Crown Point, from rock to rock, is only a distance of 150 feet. The whole of it is deep water. A swing can be constructed on any part of the bridge. Now I will state that Victoria harbour, from Shoal Point to the bridge at the gorge, a distance of about two miles, is nothing but a deep water channel, with indentations or bays at certain points; the channel is as crooked as a serpent, and at some places so narrow that two ships would find it impossible to pass each other. Considering that the town before long will have three distinct sides, every man will admit the necessity of connecting them together as closely as possible; and that can only be effected by building bridges where I have mentioned. Should all this be done, then Victoria will be a town beautiful in appearance, large and convenient in every respect, and the harbour will have been converted from rather a poor one into docks as convenient and safe as any in the world. Having now shown how both town and harbour can be improved, and how the funds can be raised to complete all that I have mentioned without taxing the people, the balance depends on the Victoria bridge. Should it be removed, then all ends in smoke, and that valuable piece of ground where the Indians now are won't be worth an Indian blanket. I will now leave the fate of the Victoria bridge in the hands of those who are accountable to the people for their acts, trusting that their views on the subject may be extensive and correct, and that no other motives apart from the public welfare will occupy their thoughts while deciding the fate of the best and most useful bridge on Vancouver's Island.

**ECONOMY.**  
MR. EDITOR: In my next I hope to be able to finish this article with a few remarks on the intended bridge across the gully, and something about the street.

E.

**THE LAKES IN AUSTRALIA.**—Mr. Herchel Babbage, the Australian explorer, asserts that the lakes in Australia are naturally salt, and that they are only fresh after sufficient rain has fallen to give them depth of water. The lakes in some parts are surrounded by bluffs of elevated stony tableland, with occasionally a small valley of sandhills and scrub running down to them. At one lake

there was a peculiarity which he had not noticed elsewhere. The soil of the western side was quite dry, and it contained a number of fresh-water shells. The eastern bed was lower than the western, and was soft and boggy, and quite salt—the surface at several places being white with salt.

**THE YIELD OF GOLD IN AUSTRALIA.**—From the first discovery of the gold-fields in Victoria up to the end of last year, the Government escorts had brought down to Melbourne 44,457,472 ounces of gold, the value of which is estimated at 45,850,000 pounds stg. During the above period the total amount of revenue derived from the gold-fields, inclusive of the export duty, was nearly three millions stg., out of which about 1,585,000 pounds had been expended in making and repairing roads from Melbourne to the various gold-fields.

**SENATOR BRODERICK, of California,** has arrived at St. Louis. He left Salt Lake Oct. 1, and encountered a great deal of snow and severely cold weather on the mountains. By the upsetting of the stage, some distance west of Kansas City, Mr. Broderick had a rib broken and was otherwise severely bruised. He also had a foot frozen while passing through the mountains.

THOMAS COPPINGER informs us that after being nearly starved on the Fraser river trail, a few weeks ago, he and some nineteen others left Semiahmoo for Victoria, on board the "Maria Louisa." Owing to a severe storm, they were compelled to land on an island twenty miles from Semiahmoo. There they found a black surf boat, about 22 feet long, stove in. The boat was decked over, and painted yellow. Her name, the "Malta," in red letters. Two men were found dead inside the boat, lying side by side. They were entirely naked, except a belt around the waist. The impression was that they had stripped to escape easier. One man had a light complexion, with sandy hair and goatee, and was about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high. He had a ring on his little finger, with a red stone in it. The other man was smaller, dark complexion, slightly marked by the small pox; had a cut on his right cheek. On his ring were found the letters "F. P." With them was a double barrelled shotgun, German make, and a small dog collar. Coppling and party were detained three days without provisions, except a crane, a goose, and a crow. The "Maria Louisa" had left with part of their number for provisions, but did not return. They who remained, twelve in number, fixed up the boat they found and returned to Semiahmoo. Had it not been for the boat they must have starved. Before leaving they buried the two men in the sand, rolled up in the jib. They set up a head board with the inscription: "Two unknown men drowned."

## NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

## TO LET.

THE store lately occupied by Fusier and Co., Wharf street.

## ALSO,

An office next door to Yates' Saloon.  
A. DE COSMOS,  
British Colonist Office.

## TO MR. ALFRED WAVER,

Fort Yale:

TAKE notice, that I will on Saturday, the 8th day of January, 1859, at 4 o'clock, cause to be sold in front of the Union Hotel, in this town, your Trunk and contents, to pay the sum of Twenty Dollars cash lent, together with all cost of storage, should you fail to redeem it before that date.

JOHN A. WOLF.

Victoria, Dec. 16, 1858.

## T. PHELAN,

Dealer in

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, CROCKERY  
AND GLASSWARE.

Cor. Yates and Government streets,

d25 VICTORIA.

5m

## DISSOLUTION.

THE co-partnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the style of Kingman and Co., Fort Yale, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Either party has authority to sign in liquidation.

Signed,  
TRACY KINGMAN,  
Fort Yale.

G. A. REYNOLDS AND CO.,  
Victoria.

## WASHINGTON RESTAURANT,

Government street, between Yates and Johnson.

 THE PROPRIETORS, THANKFUL  
for past favors, still continue to keep  
their table well supplied with all the  
substantial and luxuries which the market affords;  
and trust by prompt attention and a disposition to  
please all to merit a continuance of that favor which  
has so generously been awarded them.

## HIBBEN &amp; CO.,

BOOKSELLERS AND STATIONERS,

YATES STREET.

In constant receipt of New Books as published,  
and supplies of Stationery adapted to the market.

## WEBSTER &amp; CO.,

Yates street, opposite the Express Offices,

VICTORIA.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALERS IN

BOOTS,  
SHOES,  
LEATHER, and  
FINDINGS,  
Of every description.

Also—LADIES' SHOES, of all kinds.

Boots and Shoes made to order, and Repairing  
done at the shortest notice. d11

## SELM FRANKLIN &amp; CO.,

AUCTIONEERS AND LAND AGENTS'

YATES ST., VICTORIA.

TOWN Lots in Victoria and Esquimalt,  
AND FARMING LANDS

Disposed of at Public and Private Sale.

Surveys, Plans, Deeds, Mortgages, and  
Agreements

Prepared by competent parties attached to the office.

MERCANDISE, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, ETC., ETC.,

Disposed of.

ADVANCES MADE ON CONSIGNMENTS.

d41 GOLD DUST PURCHASED.

## SAMUEL PRICE, &amp; CO.,

COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Corner of Wharf and Johnson streets,

d11 VICTORIA, V. I.

## VICTORIA COAL CO.

STEAMSHIP WHARF,

JOHN LITTLE, &amp; CO., Agents.

d11 Wharf street.

SOUTHGATE & MITCHELL,  
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

ALBERT WHARF,

Victoria, Vancouver Island,

And Battery st., San Francisco, California.

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS.

PARTIES wishing fine wines and Liquors, Bitters,  
Syrups and Cordials, for the coming Holidays,  
can find the following at the corner of Wharf and  
View streets, Victoria:

Fine Cognac Brandies;

Fine Holland Gin;

Fine Scotch Whisky;

Fine Jamaica Rum;

Fine Sherry Wine;

Fine Port Wine;

Fine Old Tom Gin;

Fine Old Bourbon Whiskey;

Fine Claret Wine, in cases;

Fine Sauterne Wine, in cases;

Hlostetter's Bitters;

And a general assortment of Syrups and Cordials,  
etc.

Also—an assortment of Fancy Dry Goods.

## ALPHONSE KAINDLER,

cor. of Wharf and View streets.

d18